

**MINUTES OF THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD APRIL 9, 2018**
(Approved May 14, 2018)

The Board of Supervisors held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 9, 2018. Present for the meeting were supervisors W. Atlee Rinehart, Anthony Duffy, Ray Kolb, Michael Albert Moyer, and Karen Nocella. Also present were Bernard A Rodgers, Township Manager and Mark A. Hosterman, Township Solicitor.

Mr. Rinehart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Hosterman advised that the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. preceding this meeting to discuss police contract negotiations and to discuss an acquisition of real estate.

1. ORDINANCES

There were no Ordinances to come before the Board.

2. MINUTES

March 12, 2018, Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rinehart asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting. Mr. Duffy made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Mr. Kolb seconded the motion. Mr. Rinehart called for the vote and the motion carried 5-0-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Gail Brown, Chairwoman of the East Coventry Township Historical Commission and resident of 500 Sanatoga Road thanked the Board for their resolution acknowledging Ms. Ann Keen's many years of service and generosity to the Township. She noted Ms. Keen had donated three paintings of Fricks Locks to the Township which Ms. Keene had painted.

4. REPORTS

Township Manager's Reports

Consideration of approval of the bid results for the 2018 Road Project

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the following bids that were received on April 4, 2018 and recommended the Board accept the lowest bid from Martin Paving, Inc. in the amount \$190,905.00.

	BIDDER	AMOUNT	BOND
2018 Road Project	Martin Paving, Inc. 531 E. 28 th Division Hwy., Lititz, PA 17543	\$190,905.00	Yes
2018 Road Project	Asphalt Industries, Inc. 169 Township Line Rd., Chester, PA 19013	\$191,997.30	Yes
2018 Road Project	Asphalt Maintenance PO Box 387, Center Valley, PA 18034	\$217,500.00	Yes
2018 Road Project	H & K Group, Inc. PO Box 196, Skippack, PA 19474	\$236,025.00	Yes
2018 Road Project	Schlouch, Inc. 132 Excelsior Dr., PO Box 69, Blandon, PA 19510	\$236,640.00	Yes

Mr. Kolb made a motion to award Martin Paving, Inc. the 2018 Road Project in the bid amount of \$190,905.00. Ms. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Chairman Rinehart revised the order of the agenda by considering the waiver request of The Parker Ford Church of the Brethren next. There was no objection to the change in order.

Consideration of request to waive land development application by Parker Ford Church of the Brethren.

Mr. Tom Smith with Bercek and Smith Engineering and Mr. John Doering, member of the Board of Trustees of the Parker Ford Church of the Brethren presented a sketch plan of 14 additional parking spaces the Church would like to add. Mr. Smith noted the additional spaces only encompass approximately 4,700 square feet. Mr. Doering informed the Board they are running out of onsite parking spaces during Sunday service. Mr. Rinehart asked if the Church had considered holding two services. Mr. Doering replied they would still run into the parking problem because of overlap between service attendees and Sunday school participants. Mr. Smith said the Church would like to work with the Township Engineer for the addition of these spaces and would modify their retention basin to meet Township code.

Mr. Rodgers noted the addition of the spaces would be required to receive Township approval through the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) as a land development project unless the Board of Supervisors granted a waiver from the SALDO requirements.

Mr. Duffy asked if there was a schedule for the lot expansion. Mr. Doering replied there was not one at this time.

Township Solicitor, Mark Hosterman stated if the Board granted a waiver to SALDO on this project there would be no expiration date involved. Mr. Brady Flaharty, Township Engineer, recommended the applicant obtain a drainage permit application as a condition of granting the waiver.

Chairman Rinehart made a motion to waive the SALDO requirements for the addition of 14 parking spaces at Parker Ford Church of the Brethren and to require the Church to obtain a drainage permit for the project. The motion was seconded by Anthony Duffy. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Consideration of Ellis Woods Park and Creekview Open Space Proposal by Natural Lands and Consideration of Ellis Woods Park Pickleball Court Probable Cost Opinion by ARRO.

Mr. Rodgers presented Richard Tralies' (the Township's Planning Consultant) proposal for additional landscaping enhancements at Ellis Woods Park and Creekview Open Space. He reported the proposal cost estimate of \$16,000.00 is for design work only. He stated Natural Lands Trust has funding available through the William M. Penn Foundation serving the Delaware Valley Regional Planning watershed. Mr. Rodgers related once a design plan is created the Township could seek additional grant funding for implementation of the designs.

Mr. Rodgers also reported the Township Engineer worked with Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee member, Gary Hughes on cost estimates for installing a full-size pickle ball court at Ellis Woods Park. Mr. Hughes received an estimate of \$48,000 from ProSport for installation of a full-size concrete court versus \$35,000 for an asphalt court.

He reported the Township Engineer provided an estimate of probable costs of \$52,000.00 to implement the full-court design, including stormwater management, which would be in addition to the estimate from ProSport. He related that \$7,500.00 of this estimate is for stormwater management design and Mr. Tralies could earmark \$5,000.00 from William M. Penn Foundation grant funding to offset that cost.

Chairman Rinehart asked if a pickleball court expansion could cost the township up to \$85,000.00. Mr. Rodgers replied it could, but the Committee is exploring grant funds to lessen the costs and the Public Works Department could install some of the stormwater management components to bring costs down further. He reported the Township has received verbal approval for funding of approximately half the cost (\$40,000.00) from the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation. Mr. Rodgers stated the Township would need a design plan to accompany their grant application to Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation.

Zac Klapotoski, of 886 Vaughn Road, asked what the sport of Pickleball is and stated he felt \$40,000.00 could be better utilized on other items in the Township such as pothole patching. Karen Nocella urged him to come to the Park on Tuesday evenings to play, she stated it is a fun game similar to tennis that has grown in popularity. Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee member, Mr. Gary Hughes, 9 Hershey Drive noted the quote he received was submitted by a premier pickleball installer and he stated a more cost-effective installation could be achieved.

Ray Kolb noted that Public Works personnel installed the existing single court for approximately \$7,000.00 and what is being proposed now is basically a double court.

Mr. Moyer expressed concern over the project cost and suggested tabling the issue for further review. Mr. Rodgers stated the combined presentation of the Natural Lands Trust landscape enhancement proposal and the probable costs of the Ellis Woods Park pickleball court expansion was meant to offer a big picture view. He explained what the Board is voting on tonight is the design work only for the proposed landscape enhancements at Ellis Woods Park and Creekview Open Space which would include grant funding in the amount of \$5000.00 to prepare a stormwater management plan for the proposed pickleball court. Approval of the landscape enhancement proposal by Natural Lands would leave the with Township with a potential funding commitment of \$2,500.00.

Chairman Rinehart made a motion to approve the Ellis Woods Park and Creekview Open Space Proposal by Natural Lands Trust as presented with the Township responsible for \$2,500.00 outlay toward the stormwater management plan design of the proposed pickleball court. Karen Nocella seconded the motion and Chairman Rinehart called for a vote. **The motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Consideration and approval of 2018 Police Interceptor vehicle proposal.

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2018 Police Interceptor Utility Base AWD vehicle in the amount of \$29,955.00 per the quote from the New Holland Group dated 2-16-18. Karen Nocella seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Consideration and approval of Resolution 2018-06. Acceptance of Fricks Lock Rd. land and improvements donation from Exelon and the termination of the lease agreement.

Township Solicitor, Mark Hosterman presented an overview of Resolution 2018-06 which accepts the special warranty deed for the donation of land and improvements constructed on Fricks Lock Road in Fricks Lock Village, East Coventry Township for public use from Exelon Generation Company, LLC

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the acceptance of Resolution 2018-06. The motion was seconded by Karen Nocella. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Karen Nocella made a motion to approve termination of the current lease agreement between the Township and Exelon. The motion was seconded by Anthony Duffy. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Mr. Hosterman stated there is also a proposal from Superior Tank and Energy Co. LLC (6401 Radcliffe St. Bristol, Pa. 19007) in the amount of \$4,350.00 for the removal and cleanup of seven (7) 275-gallon oil tanks from the basements of the four structures on the land to be donated by Exelon. Chairman Rinehart made a motion to approve the proposal from Superior Tank and Energy Co. LLC the removal of the oil tanks and associated cleanup. Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Consideration and approval of the Township Manager's attendance at the annual Municipal Management (APMM) Conference, May 15-17, 2018 at Pocono Manor.

Ray Kolb motioned to approve the Township Manager's attendance at the annual APM Conference. The motion was seconded by Anthony Duffy. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and the motion carried 5-0-0.

Consideration of Arborganics Acres recycling charges.

Mr. Rodgers, Township Manager, reported when the Township was first required to make provisions for residents to dispose of yard waste (leaves) between \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 was allocated annually to pay Arborganics Acres for accepting Township residents' yard waste. This year the Township received an additional \$8,000.00 invoice. Moving forward, Mr. Rodgers, stated Arborganics Acres will provide a quarterly report to the Township and require proof of residency prior to accepting yard waste.

Chairman Rinehart made a motion to pay Arborganics Acres invoice of \$8,000.00. The motion was seconded by Anthony Duffy. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Michael Moyer made a motion requesting the Township Manager or Township Solicitor to draft a written response to Arborganics Acres outlining the terms of services provided by Arborganics Acres and the terms of payment by the Township. The motion was seconded by W. Atlee Rinehart. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Consideration of Township Engineer's Report

Township Engineer, Brady Flaherty, read aloud the following advertisement, "In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is sponsoring a cleanup of the Pigeon Creek between Route 724 to the Schuylkill River. Persons interested in keeping East Coventry clean and green are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time to participate in this 11th annual community stream cleanup initiative. Interested volunteers are to gather at the Schuylkill River Trail parking lot located at the intersection of Bethel Church Road and Route 724, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The rain date will be Saturday, April 28, 2018. For more information, please contact Brady Flaherty, Township Engineer, at 610-495- 2118 or brady.flaherty@thearrogroup.com."

Mr. Rinehart encouraged all to make an effort to attend this worthwhile community event, he then made a motion to approve the Township Engineer's report. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. Mr. Rinehart called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Consideration of approving reports from various departments and committees

Ms. Karen Nocella reported on the successful 2018 Rock the Wall 5k/10k Walk-Run event held on March 24th. She offered preliminary numbers on the amount raised and noted over 100 registrants participated. She thanked the event committee volunteers for their efforts.

Mr. Moyer made a motion to approve the various department and committee reports. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with 5-0-0 vote.

5. Subdivision and Land Development

Chairman Rinehart informed the Board the following projects have been submitted for review at the April 18th Planning Commission meeting:

- 17-1084 2nd Submittal Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision – 886 Vaughn Road;
- 17-1085 Sketch Plan – Minor Subdivision – 401 Elbelhare Road;
- 18-1086 SBA Cell Phone Tower Land Development – 92 Baptist Church Road;
- 18-1087 Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision – 68 and 72 Christman Court; and
- 18-1088 JJ Kane Land Development – 200 Fricks Lock Road.

6. Zoning Hearing Board Applications

ZHB 269 - Application received for Special Exception at 470 Stony Run Rd. – Meeting date pending.

Chairman Rinehart informed the Board an application has been received for construction of an in-law suite at 470 Stony Run Road. Ray Kolb made a motion the Board take no action on the application. Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0 vote.

Approval of Resolution 2018-07. Zoning Hearing Board appointment of Donald Foy to serve the remaining term of retiring member, William Keller.

Chairman Rinehart thanked Mr. Keller for his service on the Zoning Hearing Board and made a motion to approve the appointment of Donald Foy to serve Mr. Keller's remaining term which expires December 31, 2018. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with 5-0-0 vote.

7. Other Business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

8. Exonerations

Ray Kolb asked if persons on the exonerations list are designated as deceased or having moved away. Tax Collector, Missy King, responded in the affirmative and advised the Board to notate any discrepancies prior to signing. Anthony Duffy motioned to approve the Exonerations and Ray Kolb seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

9. Payment of Bills

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the payment of bills as presented. Anthony Duffy seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

10. Information Items and Additional Items to be Brought Before the Board

Ray Kolb, Public Works Director, informed the Board that George Strutynski does not plan on returning to work on a part-time seasonal basis, therefore, he requested the Board approve the hiring of Kyle Mastrangelo as his replacement from May 1 through September 30, 2018. Chairman Rinehart seconded the motion and called for a vote. **The motion** carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Chairman Rinehart reported he attended an informational meeting on the Spotted Lanternfly last month and stated if anyone had anything for him to carry on to the upcoming PSATS conference please let him know.

Anthony Duffy stated he and Ray Kolb attended an OJRSD leadership gathering and reported the new elementary school is coming in under budget and slated for completion by July 28, in spite of issues experienced with propane installation.

Michael Moyer extended congratulations to the Rock the Wall committee members for their work in coordinating a fantastic walk/run event; he noted Pretzel City Sports did a great job. He commented he only heard one suggestion to do things differently: Hold the race a month later when it's a little warmer.

Race Coordinator, John Doyle, thanked the Board for their support, he remarked the event is a great way to raise awareness of the Township's beautiful open spaces.

Township Manager, Bernard Rodgers, reported over the past year the Township has been negotiating a new agreement with the Township Police Association and terms for a new agreement have been reached for a four-year agreement beginning January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2021. He reported on the revised terms as follows: 3.25% wage increase-2018; 3.5% for each of the following three years; increase shift differential \$0.25 per hour; increase of 12 personal hours per year for a total of 60 hours; increase of 12 sick hours to 72 hours per year, accumulation of sick leave to 620 hours but

buyback provision remaining at 50% of 500 hours; language to reopen negotiations for health care coverage; add one (1) day bereavement leave for death of son-law/daughter-in-law; 2% contribution to HSA not to exceed \$1,800.00 per year; add \$100.00 (cumulative) per year toward medical reimbursement; officers working 12 hour shift now accrue 6 hours of comp time per pay period, comp time will be reduced to 4 hours per pay period.

Mr. Moyer questioned the reopening of the contract to discuss healthcare coverage; he stated that it was not his understanding the Police could initiate the reopening of the contract. A brief discussion ensued and it was noted the Township has the option to reopen discussion of healthcare coverage. Chairman Rinehart motioned to approve the 2018-2021 Police Contract; the motion was seconded by Ray Kolb. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried with a vote of 4-0-1, with Mr. Moyer dissenting over disagreement with reopening provision on health coverage.

Bernard Rodgers, reported the property owner of 12 Buckwalter Road, which was the site of a fatal house fire last year, has requested that the Supervisors waive the sewer usage fee at the address now that the home has been demolished. Michael Moyer made a motion to approve the property owner's request to waive the sewer usage fee at 12 Buckwalter Road. Anthony Duffy seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for a vote and **the motion** carried 5-0-0.

Ray Kolb asked if the schoolhouse cornice project will be going out for bid. Mr. Rodgers, stated he will ask Frens and Frens to prepare a bid packet. Ms. Gail Brown, Chairwoman of the Township Historical Commission, stated she has not seen the report yet and urged Mr. Rodgers to keep the Historical Commission in the loop. Mr. Rodgers apologized for the oversight and stated he will forward the report to her.

Missy King, Tax Collector, informed the Board she has heard many tax customers complaining about the potholes on Bethel Church Road. Ray Kolb stated the Township has reported the potholes to PennDOT.

Justin Frederick and Zach Klaptoski, 886 Vaughn Road, questioned why the Board required the property owner of 886 Vaughn Road to remove the dirt bike track as a condition of approval of his subdivision plan. Mr. Rinehart stated the property owner informed the Township it was his intent to remove the track upon approval and agreed to the notation on the subdivision plat.

Justin Frederick informed the Board of his design work in reducing the engine noise of motorbikes which is now under patent review. He stated when you shut down recreational outlets such as the track it not only prevents young people from riding but also stifles their creativity.

Bob Thompson, 371 Old Schuylkill Road, asked why the trees are being removed along Ellis Woods Road. Mr. Rinehart replied the approved Whispering Woods subdivision plan calls for road widening, a change in grade and installation of a walking trail along Ellis Woods.

11. Adjournment

Ray Kolb moved to adjourn the monthly meeting at 8:09 p.m. and Karen Nocella seconded the motion. Chairman Rinehart called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard A Rodgers
Township Manager